Message Text

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R 300902Z JUN 78

 ${\sf FM}\;{\sf AMEMBASSY}\;{\sf RANGOON}$

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5610

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECON, EAGR, PINT, BM

SUBJECT: RICE PRICE REPORT - JULY 1978

REF: (A) STATE 162659; (B) RANGOON 2331

1. THE MONTHLY PRICES FOR NGASEIN RICE, 35 TO 38 PERCENT BROKEN (THE MOST WIDELY AVAILABLE AND CONSUMED VARIETY), IN RANGOON FOR 1978 ARE:

JANUARY KYAT 3.12 FEBRUARY KYAT 2.62 MARCH KYAT 2.78 APRIL KYAT 2.90 MAY KYAT 2.95 JUNE KYAT 3.00

JULY KYAT 4.00

ALL PRICES ARE BURMESE KYATS (U.S. \$1 EQUALS KY 7) PER PYI (1 PYI EQUALS 4.68 LBS.).

2. PRICES OF THE MOST IMPORTANT GRADES OF RICE FOR JUNE AND JULY OF 1978 ON THE FREE MARKET AND IN COOPERATIVES ARE:

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TYPE JUNE JULY
NGAKYWE (15-25 PERCENT BROKEN)
FREE MARKET 6.20 6.50

COOPERATIVES NONE AVAILABLE

EMATA (35-38 PERCENT BROKEN) FREE MARKET 5.43 6.00 COOPERATIVES 3.85 3.85

(AVAILABILITY IN COOPERATIVES LIMITED AND SPORADIC)

MEEDONE (35-38 PERCENT)

FREE MARKET 4.80 4.90 COOPERATIVES 2.00 2.00

(AVAILABILITY IN COOPERATIVES LIMITED AND SPORADIC)

GLUTINOUS

FREE MARKET 5.00 6.00 COOPERATIVES NONE AVAILABLE

NGASEIN (35-38 PERCENT)

FREE MARKET 3.00 4.00 COOPERATIVE 1.90 1.90

(AVAILABLE IN COOPERATIVES ONLY IN LIMIED QUALITY)

3. COOPERATIVES SELL RICE ON A QUOTA OF 2 PYIS PER PERSON FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE, DOWN FROM 6 PYIS PER ADULT AND 4 PYIS PER CHILD EARLIER THIS YEAR.

4. RICE PRICES IN OTHER CITIES OF BURMA ARE REPORTEDLY ALMOST THE SAME AS IN RANGOON. PRICES IN DEFICIT AREAS (I.E., HILL TRACTS) HAVE REPORTEDLY RISEN MORE SUBSTANTIALLY: PRECISE FIGURES ARE NOT AVAILABLE. BEAN

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